A PETITION TO THE PETITIONERS:

OR,

Some Queries put to the managers of the Famous City Petition, for them to give their Answers to, when the great Affairs of the Nation will afford them Leisure.

Let Friendships holy band some Names assure,
Some their own worths, and some let scorn secure;
Nor shall the Rascal Rable here have place,
Whom Kings no Titles gave, a God no Grace.
Dryd. Absalon *and* Achitophel.

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CLASS OF 1915
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A PETITION, &c.

1. WHether the Parliament of *England*, King, Lords, and Commons, who always did right, becauſe they can do no wrong, did not give all they pretended to ask, in reſtoring the Charter to the City? And if that fell ſhort of the Ambition and Malice of our Petitioners, who they pretend to blame for it.

2. Whether they know what they were doing, while they pretend to Petition the Houſe of Commons for *Explaining* their Own Act, and in ſtead of that make a Formal Accuſation? Which indeed lies not before that Honourable Houſe, who have other buſineſs, but the Lower Courts are open, Why do they not proſecute? If their Liberties are Infringed, the Laws are open.

3. Whether the World is not well turn'd with theſe Gentlemen, and their Aſſiſtance? That now cry for Liberty, who were the very perſons that expoſed the Liberties of this City to the Will of Arbitrary and Popiſh Governours, at as cheap a rate as if not worth keeping: And whether it does not ſhrewdly imply ſomething elſe in the bottom?

4. Whether they have not Impoſed upon the Houſe of Commons, by ſtuffing their Petition, beſides a great deal of fulſom daubing, with ſeveral Genuine premeditated lies? And whether the notable *Prevarications* (to uſe the Words of an

honourable Member of the House to his Face) of Mr. Common Sergeant be not Conviction enough without farther proof of the matter?

5. Whether they have not brought the Honour of the Chair to a fine pass, and made a hopeful turn in the City by setting up a new Superiour Officer? My Lord Common Sergeant King of the *Hustings*, with my Lord Mayor there, but no business for him, and the two Sheriffs by him, with two Constables Staves to keep the Peace?

6. Whether he be not well qualified for his Office too, that has been seven years in the place, and cannot tell how the Entries of the Common Hall Proceedings are made? But with I know not how many Can't Tell's, *Don't* remembers, We's, They's, Us's, and Suppose's, did all he could to keep in the Truth of the Matter, till he had the honour to see the *House* convinc'd he was a R.---l by the Demonstration of the next Evidence. *Oportet Mendacem esse Memorem.*

7. Whether these Gentlemen have not very well answer'd his Majesties Distinguishing Character of those who should obstruct the business he himself had laid before the Parliament as the only Weighty and immediatly necessary Affair? And whether with very much modesty and good Authority it may not be pronounced in Capitals. *These are the Nations and the King's Enemies.*

8. Whether had the King said nothing himself of the Matter, it was not a most seasonable juncture to set the whole City in a Disorder, promote Factions and Quarrellings at home, when the whole *Body* is surrounded with Enemies abroad, and when (had their Designs been for the good of the Kingdom) the King himself has so often told them, That *Unity is the only way to it.*

9. What these Gentlemen can say to convince the World, that they are friends to the present Government, what they have done for the Interest of it? And why we should believe that they are better

ter Friends to the Government and Revolution, who had their hands deep in the Violences and Oppreſſions, the Blood and Murther of the late Reigns: Than they who ſuffered in that common Calamity, and who at the expence of their Eſtates and Liberties, withſtood the Injuſtice of theſe very men that now ſet up for Patriots of Liberty?

10. Whether theſe Gentlemen will do us the favour to tell us who, and how many of them were Guilty of *Betraying* this City, and many of its Citizens into the hands of an Arbitrary Tyrant? Who, and how many of them gave up (as much as in them lay) the Ancient Liberty's, and Charters of the City? And who, and how many of them dipt their Hands in the Blood of ſeveral, whoſe Death has been by our Great and Only Expoſitors of Law, Voted Murther.

11. Whether, ſeeing it is not to be Expected, that they ſhould ſpeak the Truth, being in this caſe not bound to it, they can take it a miſs if we do it for them, too plain for them to diſapprove, tho' they may deny, for which they may when they pleaſe Petition the Houſe to have made it out, or refer to the Journal of the Houſe of Lords for Proof where ſufficient Teſtimony has been given.

12 Whether we have not ſufficiently Evidenced our Charity in (till now) ſparing to Laſh the Crimes we have ſuffered by, and expoſing the Perſons? And even now noting none of the little Crimes of ſurrendering Companies Charters, Lieutenaney Orders to *Quiny* for his *Guild-hall* Garriſon; Addreſſes, and Engagements to uphold Tyranny, Inſults over Dying Innocents, reproaches on the Preſent Government, with many more of like nature, which it were as eaſie to ſet down, and the Perſons, as to write ſo many Words.

13. Whether to the following Liſt another might not be added of ſworn Brethren, equally Involved in the late Guilt, who have given us a ſufficient Teſtimony that tho' their Hands be not to it, their Hearts are in it, of whom in Time and Place Convenient more may be ſaid.

Note

Note of this List, this Mark * is put to those who were of the Lord Russel's Jury, and as many other Marks as are on the Names, so many Juries and Pannels have they been on in our late Times, and those without Marks, are such as Voted in Common Council for the delivering up the City Charter.

Sir *Will. Dodson.* ...
Sir *Ralph Box.* ..
Richard Aley. ...
Will. Withers. ...
Richard Holder.
Rob. Beddingfield. ....
John Midgley. ...
Nich. Alexander. ..
John Genew. ..
Tho. Mills. ..
John Owen. .
Peter Pickering. ...
Hugh Strode. .
Tho. Blackmore. .....
Rob. Masters.
Abraham Jaggard.
Fra. Brerewood. . ..
Israel Knowles.
Peter Floyer. ..
John Bland.
Will. Founes. .
John Green. ...
Percivall Gillbourn. .....
Will. Rouse. *..
Henry Lewis.
Tho. Symonds. ..

Richard Hoare. ...
James Hudson.
Tho. Short. * ...
Edw. Herne.
Roger Reeve. ....
John Moor.
Francis Griffith
John Steventon. .
Rob. Brough.
John Forster.
Geo. Newland.
Will. Pellot. .
Law. Coles. .
James Wood. ...
John Saunders.
John Cooper. ..
James Smith. ...
John Kent. ..
Paul Weekt. .
Rich Weedon. ..
Nicho. Smith. .
John Westbrook. .
Ralph Izard. .
Tho. Templer.
Tho. Langham. * ...
John Sayer.

14.

14. Whether the very Persons now Petitioning were not the Constant Hackneys for Juries in the late Tyranny? And whether 37 of them were not actually Empannell'd, and most of them served (many of them Five or Six times Over) on all the Juries whose Verdict has been justly branded with the black marks of Murther and Injustice, as of the Lord *Russel*, Alderman *Cornish*, Mrs *Gaunt*, *Bateman*, *Oates*, *Papillion*, Sir *Patience Ward*, the *Guild-hall* Riot, Sir *Samuel Barnardiston*, &c. Twenty Five of this List in particular Empannell'd for the Tryal of the Lord *Russel*.

15. Whether thirty four of this Number also (besides what We are not at present certain of) did not do their best for the Introducing a lasting Bondage on the City, by Voting in Common-Council to Sacrifice our Liberties to the Will of a *Popish* and Arbitrary King, by giving away the Charter of the City.

16. Whether there is one of the 117 Petitioners that were then in Common-Council, and so had power to Vote, did not Vote for that surrender? And whether if there be, he would not do himself Justice by declaring so? And whether it be a Breach of Charity to judge, that the rest of the Petitioners would have joyned in those Blessed Offices if they had had opportunity, seeing they now herd with the same sort? *Noscitur ex socio qui non Dignoscitur ex se.*

17. Whether this is not a Blessed Troop, to cry out of the Invasion of their Rights and Priviledges, who received a Right to what they call their Priviledges by a very late Act of Oblivion, and that live by the Mercy of the Government, and have a Being because forgiven: That are Unhang'd, not because they deserv'd it not, but because they were not rewarded as they deserved: Who in requital of this Indulgence, Embarrass the Government, by disturbing Their Majesties Affairs, and Obstructing the Quiet and Happy Settlement of the Nation.

FINIS.